NATION | courier-journal.com

Uninsured lack organization to lobby Congress effectively

Group estimated at 50 million

By Ricardo Alonso-Zaldivar Associated Press

WASHINGTON — If the uninsured were a political lobbying group, they'd have more members than AARP. The National Mall couldn't hold them if they decided to march on Washington.

But going without health insurance is still seen as a personal issue, a misfortune for many and a choice for some. People who lose coverage often struggle alone instead of turning their frustration into political action.

The uninsured linger in the background as Congress struggles with a health-care overhaul that seems to have the best odds in years of passing.

The number of uninsured

has grown to an estimated able to fix the situati 50 million people because of the recession. Even so, advocates in the halls of Congress ing target," said Cath are rarely the uninsured themselves.

The uninsured "do not provide political benefit for the aid you give them," said Robert Blendon, a professor of health policy and political analysis at the Harvard School of Public Health.

The grass-roots group Health Care for America Now plans to bring as many as 15,000 people to Washington this year to lobby Congress for guaranteed coverage. Campaign director Richard Kirsch expects most to have health insurance.

Research shows that nearly half of those who lose coverage find other health insurance in four months or less. That may be another reason the uninsured have not organized an advocacy group. At least until this recession, many have been said.

"The uninsured a a movchoen, a vice president of Commonwealth Fund, a search group the t studies problth-care ts and lems of coverage.

But even raps in verag are only temp ry, tl can dangerous.

The Institut which provides ad-, has vice to the gover found that a lack of surance increases th hances of bad outcomes for people with a range of common ailments. Uninsured patients don't get needed follow-up care, skip taking pre ription medicines and put seeking help when they de op new symptoms.

Such evidence st ngthens the case for getting erybody covered right awa Schoen

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Kicker

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OHIO

For April 11

Midday - **558**

Night - 967

For April 11

Cash Five

For April 11

Pick Four

256121322 **Daily Three** For April 11 Midday - 0 3 9 **Pick Three** Night - 438 **Daily Four** For April 11 Midday - **546**

Night - 9286 Midday - 115 Lucky 5 For April 11 Night - 6822 Midday - 11 16 18 21 35 Night - 2468 8 10 14 16 26 15

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At MSD, we are committed to improving our waterways and streams and realize that clean water is essential for our community's well-being and growth. Our vision of providing clean, safe waterways to be used by the community for recreational purposes and a home for thriving fish and wildlife is clearer than ever. MSD's intent is to provide you with an understanding of these complex water quality issues through regular updates, public meetings and community outreach events. We believe that strong partnerships and public participation are needed and key to the success of this vision.

As part of our commitment to you, we are continuing with our 19-year comprehensive sewer improvement program, Project WIN (Waterway Improvements Now) which will continue through 2024. The program is designed to significantly reduce major sources of water pollution by reducing the overloading of sewers from excessive rainwater, thereby

As a resident living, working or playing near our waterways, you also value and understand the importance of clean water to our community. During rainstorms, your neighborhood is particularly susceptible to sewer overflows. As such, we are providing you with some important information and tips to help aid you in minimizing the potential risks of contact with these waterways.

We look forward to working with you in our continuing efforts to improve the quality of our waterways. Together we can protect and enhance Louisville Metro's waterways to ensure they are clean, safe and enjoyable for generations to come. Please call us at (502) 587-0603, or visit us online at www.msdlouky.org/projectwin to learn more about Project

* KID WIN



During, and for 48 hours after rain storms have ended, you should:

- Minimize contact with waterways
- Avoid swimming, fishing or playing in waterways
- Keep children and pets out of ponds, creeks, streams and drainage
- Wash your hands thoroughly after coming into contact with local streams and waterways
- Observe all MSD warning signs

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